

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A protective wall (1) for shielding against laser beams, optionally including laser beams stemming from welding machines,

wherein the protective wall (1) contains light-alloy shaped sections (10 - 14) which are essentially rectangular, and incorporates chambers formed by interior walls (2), and ~~profiling-tongues and grooves~~ formed on a front and/or two side walls thereof, the grooves on a front of the side walls of each of the sections opening in the same direction as the grooves on a back of the side walls of said each of the sections, the direction of the opening being perpendicular to the height of the wall, and the structure is such that the tongues and grooves of adjoining sections are joined together in a direction that is perpendicular to the height of the wall,

wherein the light-alloy shaped sections (10 - 14) are lined up and connected side wall to side wall in an individually removable manner to form the protective wall (20, 22; 21, 23; 24, 25) in such a way that the ~~profiling-tongues and grooves~~ on a the two side of the wall ~~is~~ are implemented step-like from a front wall (26) to a back wall (27), ~~thus permitting insertion and removal of each section in alternate directions perpendicular to a plane of extension defined by the front walls (26) of the sections (10 to 14).~~

2. **(currently amended)** A protective wall according to claim 1, wherein the profiling tongues and grooves on the side walls (20 - 25) is implemented in each case ~~behind hook-shaped strip projections (40A - 43A) matching the same, parallel in each case to~~ in the form of side-wall grooves (40 - 43) into which the strip projections (50 - 53) of the adjoining side wall (22, 23) engage in each case, and that the strip projections (40A, 41A; 42A, 43A) with a respective associated groove are implemented laterally offset relative to one another on each side wall (20, 21) in a step-like manner from the front wall (26) to the back wall (27) so that on the individual shaped sections (10 - 14) front strip projections (40A, 42) are located alternately closer to one another than those on the back, and vice versa.

3. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 2, wherein the hook-shaped strip projections (41A, 43A) that are spaced further apart extend flush into the front or back wall (26, 27) and are hook shaped, and the given more closely spaced strip projections (40A, 42A) are extensions of the side wall (20, 21) or formed integral with the side wall (22, 23) as hook-shaped strip projections (51, 53).

4. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 3, wherein the given more closely spaced strip projections (40A, 42A; 51, 53) end recessed relative to the front or back wall (26, 27) by one material thickness (M), so that a flush front and back wall is created in each case.

5. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 1, wherein the shaped sections (10 - 14) have different widths (B1, B2), each of which are whole-number multiples of one base width (B2).

6. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 5, wherein having a wall thickness (WD) that corresponds to two base widths (B2).

7. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 1, wherein a light-alloy shaped section (15) is a corner shaped section, incorporating in each case a rectangular front and back wall, and its side walls (25) are positioned at a right angle to one another.

8. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 2, wherein undercut grooves (31, 33, 35) are disposed centrically on the side walls (20, 21, 23) in each case, and their width is suitable for a multi-layered laser protective wall plate.

9. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 2, wherein undercut grooves (30, 32) on the front extend closely adjacent in each case to the grooves (40, 42) that receive the strip projections (50, 52).

10. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 9, wherein the undercut grooves (32, 34) on the front of adjoining shaped sections (11, 12; 13, 14) have a center distance (A) that corresponds to a base width (B2).

11. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 9, wherein the undercut grooves (30, 32, 34) on the front are suitable in their width in each case to receive a multi-layered laser protective wall plate.

12. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 7, wherein rear grooves (30 – 34) on the front are implemented on the corner shaped

section (15), and its angled front wall areas each have a width across the corner (E) that corresponds to a base width (B2).

13. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 5, wherein the base width is about 30 - 50 mm.

14. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 12, wherein, in the rear grooves (30 - 34) on the front, finishing plates (60) are held by means of spring elements (61, 62) formed integrally thereon.

15. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 14, wherein the finishing plates (60) have a profiling (63) on the front.

16. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 14, wherein the finishing plates (60) extend from one of the shaped sections (11) to the adjoining shaped section (12).

17. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 15, wherein the shaped sections (10 - 15) and/or the finishing plates (60) are extruded from light-alloy and provided with an anodized or chromate coating.

18. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 13, wherein the base width is about 40 mm.

19. **(currently amended)** A protective wall (1) for shielding against laser beams, said protective wall comprising light-alloy shaped sections (10-14) which are essentially rectangular, and chambers formed by interior walls (2), and ~~profilings~~ tongues and grooves formed on a ~~front and/or two side walls~~ thereof,

wherein the light-alloy shaped sections (10 - 14) are lined up and connected side wall to side wall in an individually removable manner to form the protective wall (20, 22; 21, 23; 24, 25) in such a way that the profiling-tongues and grooves on ~~a~~each side of the wall is implemented step-like from a front wall (26) to a back wall (27),

wherein the profiling-tongues and grooves on the side walls (20 - 25) comprises parallel side-wall grooves (40 - 43) into which the strip projections (50 - 53) of the adjoining side wall (22, 23) are configured to engage, wherein the strip projections (40A, 41A; 42A, 43A) with a respective associated groove are implemented laterally offset relative to one another on each side wall (20, 21) in a step-like configuration from the front wall (26) to the back wall (27) so that on the individual shaped sections (10 - 14) one set of the strip projections are located alternately closer to one another than the other set of strip projections, and

wherein the grooves on a front of the side walls of each of the sections open in the same direction as the grooves on a back of the side walls of said each of the sections, the direction of the opening being perpendicular to the height of the wall, and the structure is such that the tongues and grooves of adjoining sections are joined together in a direction that is perpendicular to the height of the wall.

20. **(previously presented)** A protective wall according to claim 19, wherein the hook-shaped strip projections (41A, 43A) that are spaced further apart extend flush into the front or back wall (26, 27) and are hook shaped, and the given

more closely spaced strip projections (40A, 42A) are extensions of the side wall (20, 21) or formed integral with the side wall (22, 23) as hook-shaped strip projections (51, 53).

21. **(currently amended)** Sections for forming a protective wall, each section comprising a first wall and a second wall, and side walls connecting said first and second walls to form substantially rectangular sections,

a first group of said sections further comprising a plurality of parallel side-wall grooves, wherein a first subset of said plurality of grooves are disposed adjacent to said first wall so as to be open in the direction facing the first wall, and a second subset of said plurality of grooves are disposed adjacent to said second wall so as to be open in the direction facing the second wall, and wherein said first subset of said plurality of grooves are located within the side walls forming said sections in said first group of sections, and said second subset of said grooves are located outside the side walls forming said sections in said first group of sections; and

a second group of said sections further comprising a plurality of hook-shaped projections extending outwardly from the side walls forming said sections in said second group of sections, said hook-shaped projections having a first arm extending outwardly and perpendicularly with respect to the side walls, and a second arm extending from an end of said first arm and parallel to the side walls, the first arm of a first subset of said hook-shaped projections being longer than the first arm of a second subset of said hook-shaped projections,

wherein the first subset of said grooves of each of the sections open in the same direction as the second subset of said grooves of said each of the sections, the

direction of the opening being perpendicular to the height of the wall, and the structure is such that the projections and grooves of adjoining sections are joined together in a direction that is perpendicular to the height of the wall.

22. **(currently amended)** A protective wall comprising a plurality of sections of claim 21, wherein alternate ones of said sections are connected to one another in alternate directions perpendicular to ~~a plane of extension defined by the first and second walls of the sections~~the height of the walls by insertion of said plurality of hook-shaped projections into corresponding ones of said plurality of grooves.